

NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

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THIRD MEXICAN NATIONAL LIVING IN KC PLEADS GUILTY TO COCAINE CONSPIRACY

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a Mexican national living in Kansas City, Mo., pleaded guilty in federal court today to conspiring to distribute cocaine.

Ricardo Macias, 31, a Mexican national living in Kansas City, pleaded guilty before U.S. Magistrate Judge Robert E. Larsen this morning to the charge contained in a June 21, 2005, federal superseding indictment. The superseding indictment replaced an original indictment by adding him as a fourth co-defendant.

By pleading guilty, **Macias** admitted that he conspired with others to distribute 500 grams or more of cocaine between March 1, 2004, and March 4, 2005.

Two other co-defendants also pleaded guilty to their role in the conspiracy.

On June 20, 2005, **Jose M. Macias**, 33, a Mexican national living in Kansas City, pleaded guilty to conspiracy to distribute 500 grams or more of cocaine between March 1, 2004, and March 4, 2005. **Jose Macias** pleaded guilty to the charge contained in the original indictment that was returned by a federal grand jury on March 4, 2005.

On June 28, 2005, **Angelica Macias**, 30, a Mexican national living in Kansas City, pleaded guilty to distributing cocaine on June 1, 2004. **Angelica Macias** pleaded guilty to the charge, which was contained in the superseding indictment.

Under federal statutes, Graves explained, **Ricardo Macias** and **Jose Macias** may be subject to mandatory minimum sentences of five years in federal prison without parole, up to 40 years in federal prison without parole, plus fines up to \$2 million. **Angelica Macias** may be subject to a maximum sentence of up to 20 years in federal prison without parole, plus a fine up

to \$1 million.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Kathleen D. Mahoney. The case was investigated by the Jackson County Drug Task Force.

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow